



California Department of Fish and Game Elk Management Program 2004 Hunt Information

Wildlife Programs Branch
1812 9th Street Sacramento, CA 95814

LA PANZA TULE ELK HUNT ZONE

GENERAL INFORMATION FOR HUNT ZONE

This information has been prepared to assist elk hunters applying for, or planning to hunt in, the La Panza Hunt Zone located in San Luis Obispo, Kern, Monterey, Kings, Fresno, and Santa Barbara Counties. The following information should be useful to general season hunters within this geographic area.

REGULATIONS

Laws and regulations are designed to conserve wildlife and to provide for an equitable distribution of game mammals. The hunter, who knows the laws and regulations, will enjoy the hunting experience more. All hunters should read and be familiar with the current hunting regulations available online at: http://www.dfg.ca.gov/fg_comm/2004/mammalregs04.html.

To hunt elk in this zone, hunters must possess a La Panza elk tag. This tag is valid during the general season, and hunters are required to use an appropriate method of take. All tag-holders will be required to attend a mandatory orientation. Hunters will be notified of the time and location of the orientation meeting upon receipt of their elk license tags. Season dates vary annually; thus, be sure to check the current regulations for the specific dates.

To receive a tag for this hunt, hunters must plan ahead and are encouraged to submit elk tag applications by the first business day after June 1. For information regarding elk tag application procedures and obtaining an elk tag for this area, see the Big Game Hunting Booklet, available online at: <http://www.dfg.ca.gov/licensing/biggame/biggamebook.html>.

Successful hunters are reminded to immediately fill out both portions of the tag and permanently mark the date of kill, where they killed the animal, attach the tag to the antlers (or ears, if Antlerless), have the tag validated and countersigned, and **return the completed report card portion to the department within one week after the close of the season. All hunters are required to return their report card portion, whether the hunt was successful or not.** Hunters are asked **not** to submit their elk's teeth in any type of plastic wrapping; instead, send it in the envelope provided.

CONDOR RANGE

Hunters within California Condor Range (parts of Tulare, Kern, Los Angeles, Ventura, Santa Barbara, San Luis Obispo, Monterey, and San Benito) are asked to take the following steps to help reduce the high lead levels found in some wild condors: 1) Retrieve all killed animals from the field, or 2) Hide carcasses or gut piles by burying them, covering them with brush or rocks, or placing them in an inaccessible area, or 3) Remove bullets and surrounding impacted flesh when leaving carcasses or gut piles in the field, or 4) Use lead-free ammunition, in which case none of the above is needed.

LAND OWNERSHIP/ PUBLIC LAND OPPORTUNITIES

The La Panza Hunt Zone contains a mixture of both public and private lands. Public land within the zone is administered by the U.S. National Park Service, U.S. Bureau of Land Management (BLM), U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, and California Department of Fish & Game. Off road travel is prohibited on Carrizo Plain National Monument. A significant number of elk are on private land. There is a low probability of hunter success. Private land access may be restricted or access fee required. Hunters must obtain and have in their possession, written permission to hunt on private property. Hunter trespass laws are strictly enforced. For information and/or maps regarding these lands, contact the following:

DFG Offices:

Monterey Field Office, 20 Lower Ragsdale Drive, Suite 100 Monterey, CA. 93940 (Phone: 831-649-2870)

BLM Offices:

Hollister Field Office, 20 Hamilton Court Hollister, CA 95023 (Phone: 831-630-5000)

Bakersfield Field Office 3801 Pegasus Drive Bakersfield, CA 93308 (Phone: 661-391-6000)

USFWS Offices:

Division of Law Enforcement 2027 Preisker Lane, Suite B Santa Maria, California 93454-1147 (Phone: 805-614-6177)

Throughout California, additional elk hunting opportunities may exist on private property licensed through the Department's Private Lands Management Program (PLM). For more information on the PLM, the primary species managed on each PLM, and to obtain a list of participating ranches, go to following link: <http://www.dfg.ca.gov/hunting/deer/plm.html>.

MAPS

For general maps detailing individual zones or additional elk hunt boundaries, go to the following link: <http://www.dfg.ca.gov/hunting/elk/maps/lapanza.pdf>.

USFS maps are available at all USFS offices or you can contact the USFS Pacific Southwest Regional Office at, 1323 Club Drive, Vallejo, CA. 94592 (Phone: 707-562-8737).

BLM surface management maps may also be useful. Hunters can purchase these maps at BLM district offices or contact the BLM at 2800 Cottage Way, Room E2841, Sacramento, CA. 95825 (Phone: 916-978-4400).

U.S. Geological Survey (USGS) topographic maps are very helpful, especially for topographic features that are not displayed on USFS or BLM Maps. USGS maps may be available from sporting goods, backpacking, or engineering stores, or hunter can contact the USGS directly at: U.S. Geological Distribution Center, Denver Federal Center, Box 25286, Denver, CO. 80225 (Phone: 888-ASK-USGS, 888-275-8747).

ACCESS/MAJOR ROADS

Primary roadways for the La Panza Hunt include U.S. Highway 101 and CA Highway 33, 166, and 198.

HARVEST INFORMATION

Historical information on elk harvest for this area is available in the table(s) at <http://www.dfg.ca.gov/hunting/elk/lapanzahunt.htm>. This statistical information may be useful for the purposes of planning and/or applying for elk tags in this zone. Each table contains the specific year, number of applications received, number of tags issued, amount of elk harvested, and the percentage of hunter success for each year.